

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A method of providing power to a telecom/datacom system, the system having a plurality of slots for housing a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards including power supply boards, the method comprising:

forming independently powered slots by coupling each slot adapted to receive a power supply board to a different slot adapted to receive at least a second type of electronic circuit board,

housing at least one power supply board in a slot adapted to receive a power supply board;

housing at least one electronic circuit board of the at least second type in a slot coupled to a slot housing the at least one power supply board;

supplying power to the at least one electronic circuit board of the at least second type from the at least one power supply board via the coupled slots.

Claim 2 (Original): An independently powered slots architecture comprising:

housing for a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards including power supply boards, the housing having independently powered slots formed by coupling each slot adapted to receive a power supply board to a different slot adapted to receive at least a second type of electronic circuit board, and

power input connectors for providing power from a central power supply to the power supply boards via the slots adapted to receive a power supply board.

Claim 3 (Original): An independently powered slots architecture for use in a telecom/datacom system, comprising:

a chassis having a front side and a rear side;

a card cage for housing a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards including power supply boards, the card cage having independently powered slots formed by coupling each slot adapted to receive a power supply board to a different slot adapted to receive at least a second type of electronic circuit board;

a cooling module; and

at least one independent power supply board connected via the coupled slots to an I/O card to provide power to the I/O card.

Claim 4 (Original): The architecture according to claim 3, wherein the power provided to the I/O card is provided via a midplane using power pins.

Claim 5 (Original): The architecture according to claim 3, wherein the power provided to the I/O card is provided via a cable from the independent power supply.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Original): The architecture according to claim 3, further comprising a manager module.

Claim 8 (Original): The architecture according to claim 7, wherein the manager module itself provides power to the I/O card via the coupled slots.

Claim 9 (Original): The architecture according to claim 8, wherein the manager module provides connections to the at least one power supply in the chassis.

Claim 10 (Original): The architecture according to claim 3, further comprises an alarm module.

Claim 11 (Original): The architecture according to claim 10, wherein the alarm module includes I/O connectivity for each of the at least one power supply.

Claim 12 (Original): The architecture according to claim 11, wherein the alarm module further includes at least one LED.

Claim 13 (Canceled).